|  | Application No.   | Applicant(s)  |
|--|---|---|
|  | 10/601,803  | NAKATA ET AL.   |
| Notice of Allowability   | Examiner  | Art Unit  |
|  | Shean C. Wu   | 1756  |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appear All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 | (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this app<br>or other appropriate communication<br>GHTS. This application is subject to | olication. If not included will be mailed in due course. THIS |
| 1. This communication is responsive to <u>1/24/06</u> .  |   |   |
| 2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-22</u> .   |   |   |
| <ol> <li>Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority un</li> <li>a)  All b)  Some* c)  None of the:</li> </ol>  | nder 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).   | •   |
| 1. 🛛 Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  |   |   |
| 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No   |   |   |
| 3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the  |   |   |
| International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).   |   |   |
| * Certified copies not received:   |   |   |
| Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.                                   |   |   |
| 4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submit INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give  |   |   |
| 5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.   |   |   |
| (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached   |   |   |
| 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date   | •   |   |
| (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's<br>Paper No./Mail Date   | s Amendment / Comment or in the C   | ffice action of   |
| Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1, each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the  |   |   |
| 6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.  |   |   |
|  |   |   |
|  |   |   |
| Attachment(s) 1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5 🖂 Notice of Informal B  | atent Application (PTO-152)                                   |
| Notice of References Cited (FTO-992)     Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. ☐ Interview Summary  | ,, , ,  |
| 3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0   | Paper No./Mail Dat<br>8), 7.  Examiner's Amendn   |   |
| Paper No./Mail Date4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  | ·   | nt of Reasons for Allowance                                   |
| of Biological Material   | 9.  |   |
|  | <del>-</del>  | Shearr CWu<br>Primary Examiner<br>Art Unit 1756               |

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1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention differs from the prior art in that the prior art fails to disclose the optically active compound having the structure formula (I), which can increase a helical twisting power for the liquid crystal composition. The present optically active compound comprises at least three rings with an ortho-substitution phenyl ring attached to chiral center. Also, see Tables 1-3 in the specification for the comparison.

2. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claim that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder. All claims directed a nonelected process invention must require all the limitations of an allowable product claim for that process invention to be rejoined.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103 and 112. Until all claims to the elected product are found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained.

Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowable product claim will not be rejoined. See MPEP § 821.04(b). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, applicant is advised that the process claims should be

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amended during prosecution to require the limitations of the product claims. Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder. Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

The claims 1, 3 and 9-22 are rejoined and allowed.

- 3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
- 4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shean C. Wu whose telephone number is 571-272-1393. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Huff can be reached on 571-272-1385. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1756

scw